

## Harris is pushing joy. Trump paints a darker picture. Will mismatched moods matter?



Democratic presidential nominee Vice President Kamala Harris accompanied, left, by her running mate Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, appear at a campaign event in Philadelphia, Aug. 6, 2024.

Associated Press  
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# Harris is pushing joy. Trump paints a darker picture. Will mismatched moods matter?

From Front

By **WILL WEISSERT** and  
**MICHELLE L. PRICE**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — At the top of his first speech as her running mate, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz turned to Vice President Kamala Harris and declared, "Thank you for bringing back the joy." The next day, Harris took the theme a step further, branding the Democratic ticket "joyful warriors." Contrast that with former President Donald Trump, who opened a news conference at his Mar-a-Lago club in Florida a few days later by saying, "We have a lot of bad things coming up," and predicting the U.S. could fall into an economic depression unseen since the dark days of 1929 or even another world war.

"I think that our country is, right now, in the most dangerous position it's ever been in, from an economic standpoint, from a safety standpoint," Trump said Thursday. Democrats are playing up their sunnier outlook, promoting the idea that voters can be inspired to support someone and not just cast their ballot against the other side. The Trump campaign argues their candidate is reflecting the dour mood of the country and dismisses the idea that a growing contrast in tone and upbeat attitude will decide the presidency.

Two-thirds of Americans reported feeling very or somewhat pessimistic about the state of politics, according to polling by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research from last month. Roughly 7 in 10 said things in the country are heading in the wrong direction. Jason Miller, a senior adviser to the former president, said people don't care about "vibe checks."

"That's not making gas or food or housing less expensive," Miller said.

Walz promotes positivity. Still, just how hard Harris is betting on the opposite approach is evident in her decision to pick Walz, whose personal story includes being on the coaching staff of a



**Republican vice presidential candidate Sen. JD Vance, R-Ohio, left, and Republican presidential candidate former President Donald Trump, shake hands at a campaign rally in Atlanta, Aug. 3, 2024.**

Associated Press

high school football team that had gone winless just a few years earlier to clinching a state championship in 1999. The Minnesota governor's relentless positivity is meant to give supporters a jolt of new energy and keep the momentum that Harris has built after President Joe Biden — facing mounting pressure from within his own party and increasingly pessimistic views about his chances in November — stepped aside and endorsed his vice president. Walz spent his first week as Harris' running mate traveling to swing states with Harris and underscored the point during a rally in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, celebrating what he said was "the ability to talk about what can be good." "This idea of caring for our neighbor and kindness, and a hand up when somebody needs it. And just the sense that people go through things and to be able to be there when they need it, that's who we are," he said. "It's not about mocking. It's not name-calling."

Biden often ended his speeches saying he'd never been more optimistic. But he built his now-shuttered reelection bid around branding Trump an existential threat to democracy. The president offered dire predictions about the former president, suggesting he'd dismantle the

nation's founding principles should he retake the White House.

Harris' campaign still relies on many of the same themes, decrying Trump as a threat to democracy, warning that he'll impose draconian limits to abortion and voting and that he will follow Project 2025, a plan championed by top conservatives to remake large swaths of the federal government.

And despite Walz insisting that smiles were more powerful than insults, he and Harris have continued their share of denunciations, decrying Trump's conviction in New York on 34 felony counts in a hush-money case and his being found liable for fraudulent business practices and sexual abuse in civil court. Still, even before she named Walz her running mate, Harris was suggesting that she could help make politics fun again. "We love our country. And I believe it is the highest form of patriotism to fight for the ideals of our country," Harris declared in campaign speeches before picking Walz. She now tells crowds that she and her running mate "both believe in lifting people up, not knocking them down."

Paula Montagna, who went to see Harris and Walz at a rally outside Detroit last week, highlighted the shift in mes-

saging since Harris took over from Biden.

"Kamala is so positive, and it's nice to hear positive instead of negative," Montagna said. Trump team says their candidate is reflecting reality. Trump's senior campaign advisers counter that the mood of the country right now is sour over the economy, the state of the U.S.-Mexico border and turmoil in the Middle East and beyond. They see their candidate as reflecting that reality rather than what they believe is a temporary exuberance igniting the Democratic base after months of discouragement over their ticket.

Trump has tried to harness that with his repeated predictions of stock market crashes and war. His campaign appearances have included a long list of other warnings that have veered into the apocalyptic, saying that if he's not elected, "we're not going to have a country anymore," that "the only thing standing between you and its obliteration is me," and that under a Harris administration, "Social Security will buckle and collapse" and "the suburbs will be overrun with violent crime and savage foreign gangs." During his Republican National Convention speech last month, where his advisers said Trump would seem changed and more personal

after surviving an attempted assassination, the former president did strike a different tone — at least to start. He said early on that he had "a message of confidence, strength and hope" and sought to "launch a new era of safety, prosperity and freedom for citizens of every race, religion, color and creed." But by the end, Trump had returned to predictions of doom, twice warning, "Bad things are going to happen." Ohio Sen. JD Vance, Trump's running mate, has drawn a sharp contrast with Walz. Vance has been cheered on the right for being an aggressive fighter on behalf of the former president, particularly when engaging with reporters.

"Right now, I am angry about what Kamala Harris has done to this country and done to the American southern border," Vance said at a campaign stop in Michigan. "And I think most people in our country, they can be happy-go-lucky sometimes, they can enjoy things sometimes, and they can turn on the news and recognize that what's going on in this country is a disgrace."

Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell, not himself known for a sunny disposition, offered much the same assessment Friday at a conservative conference in Atlanta hosted by radio host Erick Erickson.

"The country is obviously in a bad mood," McConnell said. Trump supporters waiting to see him at a rally in Bozeman, Montana, said they felt the former president's campaign made them feel positive — even if his message often isn't. "Just looking at the state of the country now, I don't think Kamala Harris' campaign is one of joy and hope. I think that's Trump's campaign," said Alex Lustig, a 23-year-old from Billings, Montana. Fred Scarlett, a 63-year-old retiree from Condon, Montana, said that "everyone understands that we need to be here to support Trump because he has never let us down."

"They shoot at him," Scarlett said, "and he still keeps firing back." □



# U.S. beefs up posture in Middle East, warns an Iran-backed attack on Israel could come this week

By LOLITA C. BALDOR

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin has ordered a guided missile submarine to the Middle East and is telling the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier strike group to sail more quickly to the area, as the U.S. on Monday said it believes Iran or its proxies may launch a strike against Israel as soon as this week.

The moves, announced by the Defense Department Sunday, come as the U.S. and other allies push for Israel and Hamas to achieve a cease-fire agreement that could help calm soaring tensions in the region following the assassination of Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran and a senior Hezbollah commander in Beirut.

Officials have been on the lookout for retaliatory strikes by both Iran and Hezbollah for the killings, and the U.S. has been beefing up its presence in the region.

John Kirby, the White House national security spokes-



Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin speaks during a news conference at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024.

man, said Iran's response to the killings "could be this week," but that "it is difficult to ascertain at this particular time if there's an attack by Iran or its proxies what it could look like." He said the U.S. and its allies were preparing for a "significant set of attacks."

"The president is confident that we have the capability available to us to help defend Israel should it come to that," Kirby said, adding, "Nobody wants to see it come to that." Maj. Gen. Pat Ryder, Pentagon press secretary, said in a statement that Austin

spoke with Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant earlier in the day, and reiterated America's commitment "to take every possible step to defend Israel and noted the strengthening of U.S. military force posture and capabilities throughout the Middle East in light of esca-

lating regional tensions."

A joint statement from the leaders of the United States, Britain, France, Germany and Italy "called on Iran to stand down its ongoing threats of a military attack against Israel and discussed the serious consequences for regional security should such an attack take place."

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz spoke by phone Monday with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and "expressed his great concern about the danger of a regional conflagration in the Middle East," the German government said. British Prime Minister Keir Starmer spoke to Pezeshkian and called on him to refrain from carrying out an attack, the Prime Minister's office said.

The Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, also spoke with Pezeshkian on Monday, "reiterating the need to avoid in any way the widening of the very serious conflict underway," according to a Vatican statement. □

Associated Press

## Hunter Biden's lawyers say claims about foreign business dealing have no place in upcoming tax trial

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Hunter Biden's lawyers say prosecutors are inappropriately trying to insert "politically-charged" allegations about his foreign business dealings into the upcoming federal tax trial against the president's son.

Special counsel David Weiss' team told the judge last week that they plan to call to the witness stand a business associate of Hunter Biden's to testify about an arrangement with a Romanian businessman who was trying to "influence U.S. government policy" during Joe Biden's term as vice president.

Hunter Biden's lawyers responded in court papers filed Sunday that such matters are irrelevant in the

case headed for trial next month in Los Angeles over at least \$1.4 million in taxes he owed between 2016 and 2019.

Furthermore, defense lawyers allowing such testimony would confuse jurors, and slammed prosecutors for showcasing "these matters on the eve of Mr. Biden's trial when there is no mention of political influence in the 56-page Indictment."

"The Special Counsel's unnecessary change of tactic merely echoes the baseless and false allegations of foreign wrongdoing which have been touted by House Republicans to use Mr. Biden's proper business activities in Romania and elsewhere to attack him and his father," the defense wrote.

Prosecutors said they want to bring in evidence of the arrangement with the Romanian businessman to rebut arguments from the defense that Hunter Biden's drug use during the years in which he's accused of failing to pay his taxes affected his decision-making and judgement.

The evidence shows his actions "do not reflect someone with a diminished capacity, given that he agreed to attempt to influence U.S. public policy and receive millions of dollars" as part of the arrangement, prosecutors wrote.

The Romanian businessman, Gabriel Popoviciu, wanted U.S. government agencies to probe a bribery investigation he was facing in his home country in the hopes that would

end his legal trouble, according to prosecutors.

Prosecutors say Hunter Biden agreed with his business associate to help Popoviciu fight the criminal charges against him. But prosecutors say they were concerned that "lob-

bying work might cause political ramifications" for Joe Biden, so the arrangement was structured in a way that "concealed the true nature of the work" for Popoviciu, prosecutors alleged. □



Hunter Biden departs from federal court June 11, 2024, in Wilmington, Del.

Associated Press



## Texas church where gunman killed dozens in 2017 demolished over protests by some families

By ERIC GAY and JAMIE STENGLE  
Associated Press  
**SUTHERLAND SPRINGS, Texas (AP)** — Crews on Monday tore down a Texas church where a gunman killed more than two dozen worshippers in 2017, using heavy machinery to raze the small building even after some families sought to preserve the scene of the deadliest church shooting in U.S. history.

A judge cleared the way last month for the First Baptist Church of Sutherland Springs to tear down the sanctuary where the attack took place, which until now had been kept as a memorial. Church members voted in 2021 to tear it down, but some families in the community of less than 1,000 people filed a lawsuit hoping for a new vote on the building's fate.

Authorities put the number of dead in the Nov. 5, 2017, shooting at 26 people, including a pregnant woman and her unborn baby. After the shooting, the interior of the sanctuary was painted white and chairs with the names of those who were killed were placed there. A new church was completed for the congregation



Workers continue demolition of the First Baptist Church where a gunman killed more than two dozen worshippers in 2017, in Sutherland Springs, Texas, Monday, Aug. 12, 2024.

Associated Press

about a year and a half after the shooting.

John Riley, an 86-year-old member of the church, watched with sadness and disappointment as the long arm of a yellow excavator swung a heavy claw into the building over and over. "The devil got his way," Riley said, "I would not be the man I am without that church."

He said he would pray for God to "punish the ones"

who put the demolition in motion.

"That was God's house, not their house," Riley said. For many in the community, the sanctuary was a place of solace.

Terrie Smith, president of the Sutherland Springs Community Association, visited often over the years, calling it a place where "you feel the comfort of everybody that was lost there." Among those killed in the

shooting were a woman who was like a daughter to Smith Joann Ward and Ward's two daughters, ages 7 and 5.

Smith watched Monday as the memorial sanctuary was torn down.

"I am sad, angry, hurt," she said.

In early July, a Texas judge granted a temporary restraining order sought by some families. But another judge later denied a re-

quest to extend that order, setting in motion the demolition. In court filings, attorneys for the church called the structure a "constant and very painful reminder." Attorneys for the church argued that it was within its rights to demolish the memorial while the attorney for the families who filed the lawsuit said they were just hoping to get a new vote.

In the lawsuit, the plaintiffs alleged that some church members were wrongfully removed from the church roster before the vote was taken. In a court filing, the church denied the allegations in the lawsuit.

A woman who answered the phone at the church said Monday that she had no comment then hung up. The man who opened fire in the church, Devin Patrick Kelley, died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound after he was chased by bystanders and crashed his car. Investigators have said the shooting appeared to stem from a domestic dispute involving Kelley and his mother-in-law, who sometimes attended services at the church but was not present on the day of the shooting. □

## Federal judge orders 100-year-old Illinois prison depopulated because of decrepit condition

**SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP)** — Illinois must move most of the inmates at its 100-year-old prison within less than two months because of de-

crepit conditions, a federal judge ruled.

The Illinois Department of Corrections said that U.S. District Judge Andrea R.

Wood's order, issued Friday, to depopulate Stateville Correctional Center is in line with its plan to replace the facility. The department plans to rebuild it on the same campus in Crest Hill, which is 41 miles (66 kilometers) southwest of Chicago. That plan includes replacing the deteriorating Logan prison for women in the central Illinois city of Lincoln. The state might rebuild Logan on the Stateville campus too.

Wood's decree states that the prison, which houses over 400 people, would need to close by Sept. 30 due in part to falling concrete from deteriorating walls and ceilings. The

judge said costly repairs would be necessary to make the prison habitable. Inmates must be moved to other prisons around the state. "The court instead is requiring the department to accomplish what it has publicly reported and recommended it would do namely, moving forward with closing Stateville by transferring (inmates) to other facilities," Wood wrote in an order.

The decision came as a result of civil rights lawyers arguing that Stateville, which opened in 1925, is too hazardous to house anyone. The plaintiffs said surfaces are covered with bird feathers and excrement,

and faucets dispense foul-smelling water.

Gov. J.B. Pritzker's administration announced its plan in March, but even during two public hearings last spring, very few details were available. The Corrections Department plans to use \$900 million in capital construction money for the overhaul, which is says will take up to five years. Employees at the lock-ups would be dispersed to other facilities until the new prisons open. That has rankled the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Council 31, the union that represents most workers at the prisons. □



The front entrance of Stateville Correctional Center is seen, Sept. 2, 2009, in Crest Hill, Ill.

Associated Press



# Greece on high alert as 'exceptionally dangerous' wildfire is out of control on Athens' fringes

By ELENA BECATOROS

Associated Press

**ATHENS, Greece (AP)** — A major wildfire raged out of control in the northern suburbs of Athens on Monday, triggering evacuations of several areas as swirling winds hampered the efforts of hundreds of firefighters and dozens of water-dropping planes.

The massive, fast-moving blaze sent flames to heights of over 25 meters (80 feet) as Greece sought assistance from other countries, activating Europe's mutual civil protection mechanism.

The fire began Sunday afternoon about 35 kilometers (22 miles) northeast of Athens, burning several homes and businesses and sending a blanket of smoke and ash over the city center. Power cuts hit parts of the Greek capital and affected traffic lights at major central junctions.

Authorities said 15 people were injured, mostly due to smoke inhalation, as the blaze reached outlying sections of a suburb about 15 kilometers (9 miles) from the city center. Greece's National Observatory said late Monday that satellite



**A firefighter tries to extinguish the flames at a business during a fire in northern Athens, Monday, Aug. 12, 2024, as hundreds of firefighters tackle a major wildfire raging out of control on fringes of Greek capital.**

images show the blaze has affected about 10,000 hectares (25,000 acres).

France would provide a helicopter, Italy two water-dropping planes and the Czech Republic 75 firefighters and 25 vehicles, officials said, while Serbia and Romania were also readying aid. Neighboring Turkey's Foreign Ministry said the country

would dispatch two firefighting planes and a helicopter, while Spain was also finalizing reinforcements to send to Greece.

The wildfire raced through pine forests left tinder-dry by repeated heat waves this summer. June and July were the hottest months ever recorded in Greece, which also recorded its warmest

winter ever. An early start of the fire season this year has strained Greece's firefighting force.

"Firefighters have been working at full tilt for months," said Nikos Lavranos, head of Greece's main firefighters' union. "They are exhausted." Climate Crisis and Civil Protection Minister Vassilis Kikilias said Monday it was "an ex-

ceptionally dangerous fire, which we have been fighting for more than 20 hours under dramatic circumstances." Some areas that were burning on a mountain northeast of Athens were particularly hard to reach, he added.

Three hospitals, including a children's hospital, two monasteries and a children's home were evacuated on Monday afternoon. Cell-phones in the area got at least 30 push alerts warning people to flee.

"The wind would go in one direction and then in the other," said Spyros Gorilas, a resident of the area of Dioni who hosed down his house with water to save it from the flames. "The smoke was suffocating. You couldn't see. Your eyes teared up. You couldn't breathe."

"Even the helicopter that dropped water, you couldn't see it," he added. "You could only hear it."

Evacuation orders were issued for more Athens suburbs through Monday. Fire Department spokesperson Col. Vassileios Vathrakogiannis said there were scores of flareups in areas where the flames had somewhat abated earlier. □

Associated Press

## Man stabs a girl and her mother in a London tourism hot spot before being arrested, police say

**LONDON (AP)** — A man stabbed an 11-year-old girl and her mother in London's bustling theater district on Monday before being arrested, police said, adding that there was no indication that the attack was terrorism-related.

The attack occurred shortly before noon outside a tea shop in Leicester Square, a magnet for tourists with its shops and theaters.

Workers from nearby shops leapt to the assistance of the victims. Officers arrived within four minutes and arrested the attacker, police said. Police said they weren't seeking anyone else in connection with the attack.

"I would like to pay trib-

ute to the members of the public, including staff from local businesses, who bravely intervened in this incident," Metropolitan Police Detective Chief Superintendent Christina Jessah said. "They put themselves at risk and showed the best of London in doing so." The victims were taken to a major trauma center. The girl required treatment but her life was not in jeopardy, police said. Her mother, 34, had less serious injuries.

The suspect is 32, and police said that at this stage, they don't believe he knew the victims.

"An urgent investigation is now ongoing and detectives are working to es-

tablish the details around exactly what happened," Jessah said.

The stabbing occurred during a recent rise in knife crime in Britain, which is on edge after days of violence as crowds spouting anti-immigrant and Islamophobic slogans clashed with police. The disturbances have been fueled by right-wing activists who used social media to spread misinformation about a mass stabbing that killed three girls during a Taylor Swift-themed dance event.

It was not clear if Monday's attack had any link to the unrest.

Police had braced for further riots over the week-

end, but no widespread unrest occurred. Ministers remain on high alert, Prime Minister Keir Starmer's of-

fice said, adding that its work was not done in dealing with the fallout from the recent violence. □



**Discarded clothing and emergency medical equipment is seen inside the TWG Tea shop in Leicester Square, London, as a man has been arrested after an 11-year-old girl and 34-year-old woman were stabbed, in London, Monday, Aug. 12, 2024.**

Associated Press



# Sierra Leone's president uses U.N. Security Council presidency to urge more seats for Africa

By JENNIFER PELTZ

Associated Press

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)** — After decades of seeking a bigger voice in the United Nations' most powerful body, Africa "cannot wait any longer," Sierra Leone's president told the Security Council on Monday.

Chairing a meeting that his country convened, President Julius Maada Bio pressed a longstanding bid for African countries to get more council seats, including two permanent and potentially veto-wielding spots.

"The time for half-measures and incremental progress is over. Africa must be heard, and its demands for justice and equity must be met," Bio said, calling his continent the "unquestionable victim" of an imbalanced, outdated and unrepresentative Security Council structure.

It wasn't the first time the council has heard calls for expanding and reshaping its membership and African countries aren't the only ones that want more representation. While there's



Sierra Leone President Julius Maada Bio speaks at the United Nations headquarters, Monday, Sept. 19, 2022.

a general sense that the council needs to change, discussions have bogged down over differences on how much to expand the group, what countries to include and what powers it should have.

But Bio's presence put an exclamation point on the issue ahead of a U.N. "Sum-

mit of the Future" and the annual General Assembly gathering of presidents, prime ministers and monarchs. Both gatherings are scheduled next month.

Some countries are hoping for momentum from the summit, which is meant to generate a wide-ranging new vision of what interna-

tional cooperation should look like in this century. The latest draft of the summit's potential "Pact for the Future" terms Security Council reform a priority and pledges an "ambitious" result, with specific language still to come.

"We are sure it is a matter of time. Because the gate-

keepers will find it difficult to let us in," Bio said at a news briefing Monday, but "we have a genuine and compelling case."

Set up in 1945 to try to maintain peace in the wake of World War II, the Security Council can levy sanctions, deploy peacekeeping missions and otherwise pass resolutions that are legally binding, if sometimes ignored.

Its composition reflects the postwar power structure, and a time when most of Africa was under European control.

The United States, Russia, China, Britain and France are permanent, veto-wielding members. Ten other seats originally six, until a 1965 expansion go to countries that get two-year council terms, without veto power. The broader General Assembly elects them by region, with three seats for Africa. African countries, and many others, have argued that the arrangement shorts the continent with the world's fastest-growing population, now at 1.3 billion. □

Associated Press

## ICC prosecutors are monitoring Venezuela, where security forces are cracking down on dissent

By MIKE CORDER

Associated Press

**THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)** — International Criminal Court prosecutors said Monday that they are "ac-

tively monitoring" events in Venezuela, where security forces have launched a crackdown on the opposition in the aftermath of the nation's disputed presi-

dential election.

Forces loyal to President Nicolás Maduro have rounded up more than 2,000 people for demonstrating against the president or casting doubt on his claims that he won a third term in the July 28 election despite strong evidence he lost the vote by a more than two-to-one margin.

In a written statement to reporters, the office of ICC Prosecutor Karim Khan said it is "actively monitoring the present events and has received multiple reports of instances of violence and other allegations following the presidential election of 28 July in Venezuela."

The statement said that Khan's office has "en-

gaged with the Government of Venezuela at the highest-level to underline the importance of ensuring that the rule of law is adhered to in the present moment and emphasize that all persons must be protected from violations that may constitute Rome Statute crimes."

The Rome Statute is the court's founding treaty and outlines the crimes over which it has jurisdiction.

Maduro has called on Venezuelans to denounce election doubters via a government-run app originally created to report power outages. He also said the government was refurbishing two gang-dominated prisons to accommodate an expected

surge in jailing of opponents.

"There will be no mercy," Maduro said on state TV. The ICC has an ongoing investigation into violence that followed Venezuela's 2017 election but has so far not sought any arrest warrants.

Khan, announced in late 2021 that he was opening the investigation after a lengthy preliminary probe and an official referral a request to investigate in 2018 by Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Chile, Paraguay and Peru.

His office said Monday that "those investigations are continuing with focus." It highlighted an online portal where potential evidence can be filed. □



Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro speaks to the press before leaving the Supreme Court where he arrived for procedures related to the court's audit of presidential election results in Caracas, Venezuela, Friday, Aug. 9, 2024.

Associated Press



## Craving a late-night snack? We got you covered!



(Oranjestad)—After a night out it's custom to grab yourself a late-night snack on the road. Here in Aruba, there are dozens of food trucks that you can visit to enjoy a late-night bite. Here are a few that can be found in the down town/hotel area.

### Chalo burger

Chalo burger is a favorite among locals, and it's due to its popularity that it has branched out to different parts on the island. One of its main locations is in Palm Beach, near the hotel area. Chalo offers a variety of fast-food meals, like hamburgers, hotdogs, loaded fries and more! A popular

dish among locals is the Salchipapa: loaded fries with sausages, cheese and a mix of sweet and savory sauce. Perfect for those late-night cravings!

Chalo is open Wednesdays through Mondays from 7pm to 12 am (Fridays till 1am), and is located at Palm Beach 178 (a little past the roundabout near the Piazza Gianni's). Other Locations include Tanki Leendert and Savaneta.

### Julio's Corner

Situated in a nice little corner off the highway, Julio's Corner has a huge menu comprised of different dishes and snacks, all made

with a Venezuelan twist! From arepa's to chicken wings, to pizzas and burgers, Julio's Corner has it all to satisfy your taste! Editor's choice for what to get at Julio's Corner is the quesadilla, which comes with a side of fries.

Julio's Corner is open Mondays through Saturday from 6pm to 2am (Fridays and Saturdays up to 4am), and is located in the parking lot of the Eagle Bowling Palace, right on the other side of the road from the Sasaki gas station.

### Habibi Express

Habibi Express is a Lebanese food truck stand, one



of very few food trucks on the island to sell Mediterranean food. Located right at the entrance of The Local Market near the cruise ship port, here you can fill your stomach (and heart) with a variety of options like shawarmas, doners, kapsalons and more, all 100% halal.

When asked, the chef there recommends all foodies to try their lamb shawarma, as it's a favorite among guests.

Habibi Express is open every day from 5pm to 12am. While you're there, how about a picture with the genie? ☐

## Create museum memories

**ORANJESTAD — Museums are an integral part of conserving and honoring cultures, and Aruba is no exception. Our Island has a wide selection of various museums for our locals and visitors to see. Take this opportunity to learn about our island and experience a different day beyond the beach. Let us introduce to you these museums.**

### Museum of Industry Aruba

The Museum of Industry is located in San Nicolas—better known as the art capital of Aruba. This museum exhibits the industrial history of gold, aloe, phosphate, oil and tourism through elaborated displays and multimedia installations.

The Museum of Industry is situated in the Water Tower in San Nicolas and narrates Aruba's industrial history, which began in the 19th century. The Water Tower was built in 1939 and consists of three sections: the substructure, the high-rising

vertical shaft, and the tank at the top. The Water Tower was purchased by the Monuments Fund in 2003 so it can be restored and preserved as one of Aruba's monuments. The Museum of Industry is part of Aruba Museum Foundation (Fundacion Museo Aruban), which is a foundation set to maintain, preserve, and protect the Aruban cultural sector, history, and nature. The museum of Industry is open daily from 9 am till 6 pm.

For more information, check out their Facebook page Museum of Industry Aruba.

### Archaeological Museum of Aruba

The Archaeological Museum of Aruba is located at Schelpstraat 42 in downtown Oranjestad. The renovated historic Ecury complex in the area has been transformed from a family home to a modern museum that preserves Aruba's Am-

erindian cultural heritage. This 21st century museum is especially designed to preserve valuable artifacts dating back to the Pre-Ceramic period of 2500 BC. In the late 1980's, AMA identified its need for an adequate housing for its collection and activities. After studying various options, a project proposal was drawn up, including the acquisition and restoration of historical buildings in downtown Oranjestad.

These historical buildings were formerly the property of the Ecury family. The "Ecury Complex", is a cluster of single and two-story historic buildings, mainly Dutch colonial architecture from the late 19th and 20th century on a plot of approximately 1.700 m2.

In 1997, the Aruban Government bought the complex for the National Archaeological Museum project. In 2004, a financial agree-



ment was signed with the European Development Fund and in 2006, restoration and construction work began on the monumental buildings and the soon-to-be exhibition space. In December 2007, the key to the complex was delivered and the museum's employees moved to the new location. The final design for the exhibit was completed in November 2007 and the permanent exhibit, financed by the Aruban Government and the Union of Cultural Organizations (UNOCA), opened in July 2009.

At the new location, the National Archaeological Museum Aruba disposes of approximately 500 m2 for

its permanent exhibit. This exhibit conveys information on the origin and culture of the first inhabitants of the island through archaeological objects and modern exhibition techniques. The new permanent exhibit gives the visitor an insight into the cultures that inhabited the island in Pre-Historical and Early Historical times. The museum also hosts attractive public programs, including lectures, educational projects, temporary exhibits and workshops.

The museum is open daily from 9:30 am till 4:30 pm. For more information check out the Facebook page Museo Arqueologico Nacional Aruba. ☐



# An 8-Course Culinary Journey in Aruba

It all begins on the beautiful island of Aruba, where diners are invited at 6:30 pm. Upon arrival, they are warmly welcomed to Infini's garden, an open space with a stunning view of the sea and sunset. Here, they receive their first champagne and the first course, served at the table by the chef and his kitchen team. In addition to welcoming them, they explain in detail what the dish is about, what inspired it, and which local products are highlighted. Once the first course is over and the sun has set into the waves of the sea, guests are invited inside.



When diners enter Infini, they are about to embark on an unparalleled culinary journey. The space exudes sophistication, with the kitchen at the center and the tables arranged around it, creating an intimate atmosphere. The lighting adds a romantic touch, even if you are dining alone. The sommelier serves the start of the wine pairing, explaining the details of each wine, its origin, and the focus in relation to the second course, which is again served by each chef at the table. This is just the beginning of a great culinary experience where not only the talent of Aruba's gastronomy is evident, but also the effort to highlight local suppliers. From microgreens, fruits, and vegetables to quail and ceramic plates, everything combines perfectly to showcase the island's rich cultural and gastronomic heritage.

Infini offers an 8-course menu that celebrates the wealth of flavors and culinary techniques of Aruba. Every four months, the menu is renewed, ensuring there is always something new and ex-



citing to discover. This month, they launched their new Impressions menu, designed by Chef Urvin Croes and his team, which promises a unique culinary journey:

- Pasa Palo di Lechuga: Tartalette, Taco, Croquette
- Flor di Lama: Kingfish, Smoked Eel, Kaffir, Anchovies, Yellow Beets
- Coral: Scallops, Carrots, Soy, Arugula, Kimchi, Banana di Rif
- Mondj: Mushroom Pate, King Oyster, Maitake, Blackberries, Watercress
- Codorniz: Peking Quail, Lau Gan Ma, Pak Soy, XO, Cucumbers, Fried Rice
- Beef Creole: CAB Angus, Sunchoke, Brussels Sprouts, Creole
- Hofi Fruta: Rhubarb, Watermelon, Basil, Ricotta
- Bolo Pretu y Wortel: Carrots, Walnut, Cream Cheese, Black Cake

The Impressions menu at Infini is offered at the exclusive chef's table, with only 21 seats available, guaranteeing an intimate and personalized dining experience. You can reserve your seat and be part of Aruba's culinary excellence by calling +297 6993982.☐

Experience Aruban culture with this exciting theme night featuring a Carnival show, mixology bar, local artists and more. You can sample Aruban cuisine, including delicious BBQ options with a tropical twist. A local brass band will be performing, and you can pose with elaborately dressed Carnival dancers for a memorable photo op as well, so don't miss it.

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## To Danny with Love....

Wishing you a day that's as special as you are. One that's overflowing with the same amount of joy and happiness that you share with everyone you know and meet.

Your spirit is contagious, and I love the way you smile at all the little things in life.

Even if things aren't going your way, you're always the bright spot in everyone's day.

Happy 70th Birthday!

I love you more each day!  
Cath

We at Aruba Today wish the Manzons a most happy 35th anniversary, which they are celebrating during their 35th visit on the island. Congratulations! And a most happy birthday to you Danny! Cheers to many more!☐





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## Paseo Herencia; An exciting destination for leisure and entertainment



**NOORD — Paseo Herencia, situated in the heart of Palm Beach and within walking distance from the high-rise hotels, beckons with a diverse array of shopping, dining, and entertainment options in an outdoor setting.**

### Shopping

Paseo Herencia presents a captivating selection of stores catering to various preferences, encompassing beachwear, apparel, fragrances, footwear, jewelry, keepsakes, and much more. Unwind at Maggy's, indulging in their salon services while exploring a range of beauty products. For a memorable gift crafted from natural ingredients, explore Aruba Aloe's offerings. Iconic brands like Tommy Hilfiger, Calvin Klein, Aldo, Carmen Steffens, Nike, and Pandora stand among the favorites.

### Dining

Embark on a global culinary journey at Paseo Herencia's diverse array of restaurants, each offering a unique dining experience. From the vibrant flavors of Iguana Cantina's Mexican cuisine to the Spanish elegance of Xixon Spanish Restaurant, the innovative fu-



sion of Pizza and Sushi at Fusion Cuisine, the grilled delights of Skewers Grill, the comfort of The Lazy Turtle, the creativity at Drunk's Denial, and the seafood sensation of Sexy Shrimps Bar, and the familiar warmth of Starbucks, indulge in an unforgettable gastronomic adventure that spans the world's finest cuisines, all within the charming ambiance of our outdoor center.

### VIP Cinema

Indulge in an unparalleled cinematic experience at Caribbean Cinemas VIP, nestled on Paseo Herencia's second floor. Relax in supremely comfortable reclining seats while enjoying movies on high-quality screens with state-of-the-art projection and 7.1 Dolby surround sound. Don't forget to relish the delectable buttery popcorn.

### Entertainment

Paseo Herencia offers live entertainment from Monday to Friday at 8pm on the center stage, as well as captivating nightly watershows at 7:30pm, 8:30pm, and 9:30pm. Thrill-seekers can explore the Airsoft experience, located behind The Lazy Turtle. For picture-perfect moments, capture Instagram-worthy shots



at the Angel Wings installation between Pandora and Free Spirit, or amidst the Flying mosaic hearts behind King Churros. There's more fun in store with delightful kids' activities, including a Kid's carousel and train ride, available every day from 6 pm to 10 pm.

Parking is complimentary for up to two hours when shopping, dining, or enjoying a movie at Paseo Herencia. Simply present your purchase receipt to the parking cashier. For more details on specials and events, visit the Paseo Herencia website at [www.paseoherencia.com](http://www.paseoherencia.com).



# Don't forget to visit Aruba's famous Red Anchor

At the south east coast of the island, standing alone on a windswept and barren land stands a popular Aruba landmark – a large anchor. It overlooks the sea just beyond, watching over the shipping lanes. It stands there in memory and in honor of all seamen who have lost their life at sea.

## Where to Find the Anchor?

The anchor is a “must see” landmark when you visit Aruba. It is among the most photographed historical landmarks for the island. You want to make sure you add this stop on your itinerary when your visiting the south coast of Aruba. The bright red anchor against the backdrop of the deep blue Caribbean sea and the azure blue skies, make a great backdrop for your vacation pictures.

The anchor is located at the entrance to Gate 6 to the former Lago Colony. It is on the outskirts of Seroe Colorado, on the south east point of the island at the “T” junction to Baby Beach.

Depending on where you are staying on the island, follow the signs that indicate the way to Baby Beach. Once you reach the T-junction, it will be right in front of you.

## About the Anchor

Size  
It will be hard to miss the anchor, it's huge! The anchor that weighs 21,772 kilos, is approximately 10 feet 6 inches wide and 15 feet, 6 inches tall.

On the anchor there are some numbers. The 4112 and 4115, which are believed to be the serial numbers that refer to the “fluke” or horizontal and vertical parts of the anchor, respectively. The number 21772K refers to the weight of the anchor in kilos.

This type of anchor was manufactured by Hoesch Dortmund Horde, at a foundry located in Germany.

## Where did the Anchor Come From?

There are a number of stories as to the origins of the anchor, which one do you think it was? (Unfortunately the mystery has never been solved, so your imagination can pick which one you think it might be!)

### Story 1:

“According to Mr. Manuel M. Curiel, an ex-Lago Tug Captain, a fully laden VLCC (Very Large Crude Carrier) was seeking a mooring at the 15-mile anchorage, known as Bara, on the southern part of the island. This is the usual shallow



The Red Anchor situated at the entrance of former Lago Colony in San Nicolas

mooring location for ships awaiting orders, etc. The weather was rough with strong current. The normal procedure is that they would walk out three shackles (about 90 feet) until the anchor touches the bottom while the chain must rest on the bottom. Subsequently, they will walk out some extra shackles and when the ship starts to swing or lean on one side, the anchor is properly set. Because of the rough weather, unfortunately they did not get the time to walk out the extra tackles and because of the tension exerted on the winch, it broke, and they lost the anchor and its chain.”

### Story 2:

“Mr. Curiel also said that at one time a small tanker with a Korean crew, while lifting their anchor also lifted another anchor near the inner harbor. When the ship asked for assistance, he went with his tugboat along with a barge, to help. But eventually they had to cut the chain and let the anchor go to the bottom because they could not untangle them.”

## How Did The Anchor Become a Landmark?

Sometime between 1980 and 1985, three gentlemen (Mr. Wim Martinus – the Harbormaster of Aruba; Mr. August Genser – the ex-Division

Superintendent of Lago's Laboratory; and Mr. Willie Davis – Owner of Filtec at Zeewijk in San Nicolas), were having a conversation with Mr. Charlie Brouns Jr. at his famous Charlie's Bar and Restaurant in San Nicolas. Charlie, who was a visionary and had dreams for developing the San Nicolas area, told these gentlemen that he would like to come up with something innovative for the San Nicolas area to draw tourism to the area.

The “anchor”, which at that time was being stored at the Oranjestad harbor, was suggested as an option. Charlie liked the idea! He then contacted the President of Lago for permission to acquire the anchor. He was granted permission and the anchor was then relocated to its present location and dedicated “To All Seamen” on the occasion of the closing of the Lago Oil Refinery on March 31, 1985.

## Through the Years

Through the years the Anchor was slowly weathering from the wind and salt. As time passed, sadly the origin and purpose of the anchor slowly faded away from people's memories.

After Charles Brouns Jr died on September 15, 2004, his friend Mr. Sam Speziale, requested assistance

from the management of Valero Aruba Refinery to help maintain the monument. The Valero Aruba Refinery, graciously sandblasted and painted the anchor and poured a concrete pad around it. On April 17, 2005, the anchor monument was rededicated “To All Seamen” in a formal ceremony in memory of Charles Brouns Jr.

Today, the anchor stands both as memorial to all seaman who have lost their lives at sea, but also as a silent reminder that Seroe Colorado is part of San Nicolas and that San Nicolas is still a vibrant and important part of the island of Aruba.

## The Best Time to Visit

When your planning your visit to the south end of the island, you will want to include in your itinerary the many things to see and do there. The anchor will be just one of these stops, (keep an eye out for our future editions, we publish our recommendations!).

With that being said, I have to say, if you enjoy catching a sunrise, the anchor is one of the best places on the island to catch the sunrise. But in reality, anytime is a good time to visit, depending on your personal schedule.☐



## The district of Savaneta

### A quick history guide to the island's first capital

**(Oranjestad)—Before Oranjestad became the island nation's capital, Aruba's first capital was the district of Savaneta. Here is where the cultural identity of Aruba was born, and from where the rest of the island developed into what it is today.**

Savaneta is said to have been the first place where the Caquetio inhabitants first stepped foot on the island. Though there isn't hard evidence to back this up, but considering the legend of the Cacique Arua, it is believed that there were already movements on Aruba—and Savaneta—around 88 AD.

The Caquetios probably made their way to the island either from Venezuela, Colombia or other Caribbean islands in the region, but with good weather it was relatively easy for them to travel back and forth in their canoes. So, since the Caquetios discovered the island, Aruba found her first form of civilization.

It wasn't until 1499 when Aruba met another group of people who set foot on the island: the Spanish explorer Alonso de Ojeda. De Ojeda first took notice of Aruba off the coast of Venezuela, during his exploration of the Latin American country. This was on August 9th, 1499. However, de Ojeda didn't actually sail to the island till 4 days later, on August 23rd, 1499. This was the beginning of the Spanish era on Aruba (1499-1636).

Alonso usually didn't stop at every island or land he saw, especially not in the Caribbean. He would often take notice of land from afar and continue sailing. However,

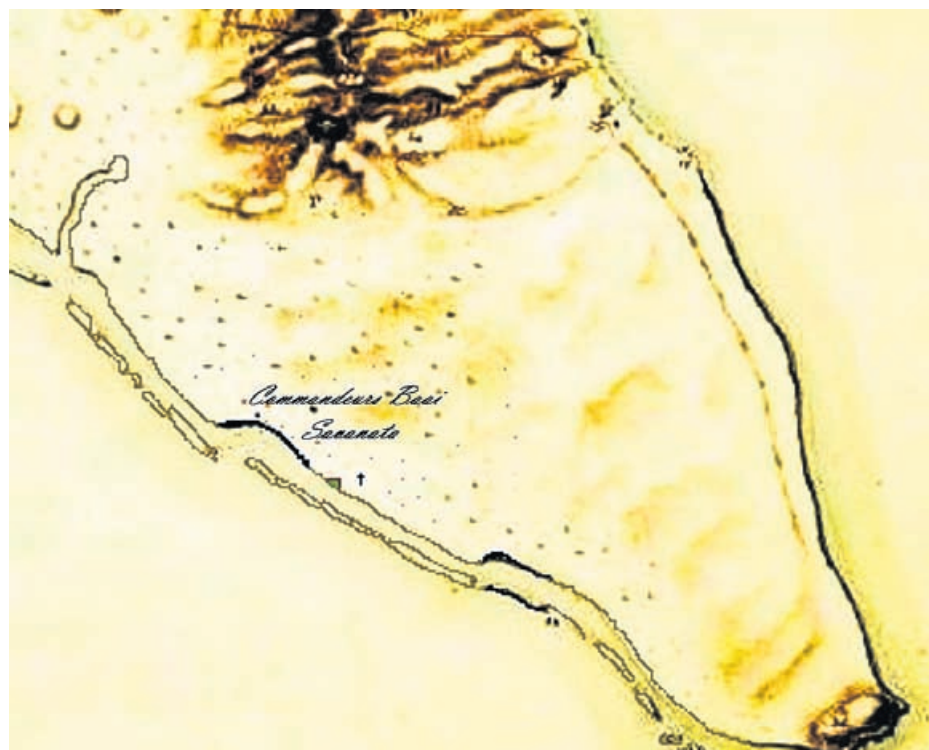
Aruba was an exception. He had heard that there were "quebracho" trees on the island, which were commonly used to produce dye or paint. But since these trees could not be found in Savaneta, he continued to search in the area of what is now known as Santa Cruz. The best way to transport the tree barks was via a route passing through Savaneta, and so the first road between Savaneta and Santa Cruz was made.

#### The Dutch colonial era (1636-1805)

During the 80-year war between The Netherlands and Spain, Dutch explorers and merchants began to travel to the ABC islands. Once they landed in Aruba, they deported the small Arawakan and Spanish community that was living on the island. This was the beginning of colonization of the ABC islands by the Dutch empire. Around the same, the West Indian Company (WIC) was born. Bonaire and Curaçao were mostly used for plantations, where the Dutch had transported slaves from Africa. Aruba, on the other hand, was mostly used to raise cattle and to house the haring factory. The Dutch had often forced the indigenous community to work for them.

In 1636, when the Netherlands won the war against Spain, the country surrendered the islands to the Dutch.

The Dutch administration appointed the island's first commander, an Irish man named N. Williams. Because the Dutch were interested in other Caribbean islands and countries in South America, they imported Dutch merchants and business



Commandeursbaai (Commander's Bay) at Savaneta

men, all of whom resided in Savaneta. This way, Savaneta officially became the island's first capital.

However, at the end of the 18th century, the commander at the time, J.R. Lauffer, moved his office to what is now "Horse Bay" in Oranjestad. Because the highest office on the island moved away from Savaneta, the capital lost its title to what was called then Playa.

#### How Savaneta got its name

The name Savaneta probably has a Spanish origin. It was said that when the Spanish climbed a hill called Yara, they saw that the area was mostly open and had no big trees. In Spanish, such a land area is called a "sabana".

Because of its land surface, Sava-

neta was a great place to construct cattle farms. From here, the farmer culture on Aruba was born. Before the Aruban Gold Rush and the construction of the Refinery in San Nicolas, most residents were farmers, and Savaneta had many inhabitants that farmed fruits and vegetables. They also continued the tradition of raising cattle, like goat, sheep, pigs and horses. Savaneta was one of the first places on the island to have a general farming culture. From this culture, many other traditions were born, like the Dera Gay Holiday that we celebrate every year on June 24th. □

**Source: Historia di Savaneta (History of Savaneta) by Adolf "Duffi" Kock.**



Alonso de Ojeda



"Quebracho" (Kibrahacha) tree; used to make dye and paint



# CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

## ACROSS

- 1 Greek site
- 5 Bath bars
- 10 Accepted truth
- 12 Detail map
- 13 Ballpark gate
- 15 Caribou's kin
- 16 Sock part
- 17 Relaxing place
- 18 Takes care of
- 20 Even, as a score
- 21 Whimsically humorous
- 22 "No ifs, —, or buts"
- 23 Make a new chart
- 25 Whiskey serving
- 28 Stockpile
- 31 Sea dogs
- 32 Like some delis
- 34 "I — Rock"
- 35 Flower visitor
- 36 "Roses — red"
- 37 Cream drummer
- 40 "Enigma Variations" composer

## DOWN

- 1 Trio of myth
- 2 Banished
- 3 Heart, in slang
- 4 Fine, to NASA
- 5 Spot
- 6 "Not — dare!"
- 7 Invites to enter
- 8 Looked slyly
- 9 Valued violins
- 11 Fortitude

F	U	R	S		R	A	G	E	S			
I	N	I	T		E	N	A	M	O	R		
R	I	T	A		F	I	B	U	L	A		
S	T	E	R	N	U	M		L	I	T		
T	E	S	T	A	T	E		A	C	E		
			E	Y	E		S	T	I	R		
S	P	A	R	S		P	O	E	T	S		
A	I	R	S		C	E	Y					
H	E	L		S	E	A	B	A	S	S		
A	B	E		P	A	T	E	L	L	A		
R	A	D	I	U	S		A	G	O	G		
A	L	G	O	R	E		N	A	P	E		
			D	E	N	T	S		S	E	E	S

## Yesterday's answer

- 14 Skilled machinist
- 19 Catego-rizes
- 20 Spanish snacks
- 24 One-celled creature
- 25 Play places
- 26 Mark of "Star Wars"
- 27 Pumpkin color
- 29 Salt container
- 30 Venus's sister
- 33 Showed over
- 35 Ernie's pal
- 38 Opening
- 39 Pound sound

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9
10				11		12			
13				14					
15				16				17	
18			19			20			
	21					22			
			23			24			
25	26	27			28			29	30
31					32				33
34				35				36	
37			38					39	
40						41			
42								43	

5-21

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-21

## CRYPTOQUOTE

G C R G ' B G C Z G C H U Y R A I L G  
A J J W B . G C Z M Q Z G M J L  
G P R T Z Q V H G C J L G S J T H U Y  
M J L P I Z Z G . — X C L S O R

Q R C H P H , " G C Z U R S Z B R W Z "

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: I LOVE YOU NOT BECAUSE OF WHO YOU ARE, BUT BECAUSE OF WHO I AM WHEN I AM WITH YOU. — MARY CAROLYN DAVIES

## Cruise ship Schedule: August 6 - 27 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
TUE	06	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS CARNIVAL HORIZON CARNIVAL MARDI GRAS	08.00 09.00 13.00	20.00 22.00 23.00	B C I	1 1 1
WED	07	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	13	CELEBRITY BEYOND CARNIVAL CELEBRATION CARNIVAL VISTA	08.00 08.00 13.00	21.00 22.00 23.00	B C I	1 1 1
THU	14	ENCHANTED PRINCESS	08.00	18.00	C	1
WED	20	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1
WED	27	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1

## Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

### Supermarket hours



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

### Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

### Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

### Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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24/7



# The U.S. government wants to make it easier for you to click the 'unsubscribe' button

By FATIMA HUSSEIN

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — In the name of consumer protection, a slew of U.S. federal agencies are working to make it easier for Americans to click the unsubscribe button for unwanted memberships and recurring payment services.

A broad new government initiative, dubbed "Time Is Money," includes a rollout of new regulations and the promise of more for industries spanning from health-care and fitness memberships to media subscriptions.

"The administration is cracking down on all the ways that companies, through paperwork, hold times and general aggravation waste people's money and waste people's time and really hold onto their money," Neera Tanden, White House domestic policy adviser, told reporters Friday in advance of the announcement.

"Essentially in all of these practices, companies are delaying services to you or really trying to make it so difficult for you to cancel the service that they get to hold onto your money for longer and longer," Tanden said. "These seemingly small inconveniences don't happen by accident they have huge financial consequences."

Efforts being rolled out Monday include a new Federal Communications Commission inquiry into whether to impose requirements on communications companies that would make it as easy to cancel a subscription or service as it was to sign up for one.

The Federal Trade Commission in March 2023 initiated "click to cancel" rulemaking requiring companies to let customers end subscriptions as easily as they started them.

Also Monday, the heads of the departments of Labor and of Health and Human Services are asking health insurance companies and group health plans



Domestic policy adviser Neera Tanden speaks during the daily briefing at the White House in Washington, Aug. 29, 2023.

Associated Press

to make improvements to customer interactions with their health coverage, and "in the coming months will identify additional opportunities to improve consumers' interactions with the health care system," according to a White House summary.

The government already has launched several initiatives aimed at improving the consumer experience. In October, the FTC announced a proposed rule to ban hidden and bogus junk fees, which can mask the total cost of concert tickets, hotel rooms and utility bills.

In April, the Transportation Department finalized rules that would require airlines to automatically issue cash refunds for things like delayed flights and to better disclose fees for baggage or reservation cancellations. The department also has taken actions against individual companies accused of misleading customers.

In June, the Justice Department, referred by the FTC, filed a lawsuit against software maker Adobe and two of its executives, Maninder Sawhney and David Wadhvani, for allegedly pushing consumers

toward the firm's "annual paid monthly" subscription without properly disclosing that canceling the plan in the first year could cost hundreds of dollars. □



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Jet Blue	588 2244
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Narcotics Anonymous	Tel. 583 8989
Fundacion Contra Violencia Relacional	Tel. 583 5400
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# Incarcerated fathers and daughters reunite at a daddy-daughter dance in Netflix documentary

By LINDSEY BAHR

AP Film Writer

**PARK CITY, Utah (AP)** — Angela Patton has devoted her career to listening to the needs of young girls. Over a decade ago, the CEO of the nonprofit Girls For a Change and founder of Camp Diva Leadership Academy helped start a program in Richmond, Virginia, that created a daddy daughter dance for girls whose fathers are in prison. The "Date With Dad" idea wasn't hers, however. It came from a 12-year-old Black girl.

The popularity of a 2012 TEDWomen talk about the initiative, which has been viewed over 1 million times, had many filmmakers clamoring to tell the story. But she didn't feel anyone was right until Natalie Rae came along.

"Natalie actually made the effort and put the energy in to come to visit with me, to meet the families that I have worked with in the past, and just to learn and be a willing participant," Patton told The Associated Press during the Sundance Film Festival in January.

The two began an eight-year journey as co-directors to make the documentary "Daughters," which follows four young girls as they



This image released by Netflix shows a scene from "Daughters."

Associated Press

prepare to reunite with their fathers for a dance in a Washington, D.C., jail. Executive produced by Kerry Washington, the Sundance-prize winning film is begins streaming on Netflix on Wednesday.

With intimate moments inside the homes of the girls, and glimpses into the intensive 12-week therapy session the fathers participate in prior, "Daughters" paints a moving and complex portrait of fractured bonds and healing.

"It was just one of the most powerful stories I had ever come across," Rae said. "For me, it was a beautiful

example of what change can happen in the world when we listen to the wisdom of young women. This is a young Black girls' idea, and she knew what her and her father needed."

In the same spirit, the two filmmakers agreed that they wanted "Daughters" to be from the girls' perspectives.

"I am always an advocate for them," Patton said. "I hear them saying that 'My dad is valuable to me but I'm really ticked off at him right now.'"

Or 'My dad is great, and someone else is trying to tell me that he's not and I want

you to not see my father as the bad man because he made a poor decision. But he still loves me.' I'm hearing all of these lived experiences through many girls in the community. I want to see how we can help them."

Though Patton has for many years worked with Black families in Washington and Richmond, for the film there would have to be another level of trust in establishing close relationships with the girls and their mothers, asking what they needed and were comfortable with and knowing when to turn the cameras on and off.

"You have to get to know the families. I come from understanding that in order for us to build trust in the community, I have to co-create with them," Patton said. "I've been doing it for over 20 years. I kind of got a reputation. ... Sister Angela is what they call me. You know, 'She's got our back. She's going to protect us.'"

Rae was a newcomer to this world, but Patton said that her co-director "took it to the next level" getting to know their subjects and earning their trust. "These are really lifetime relationships," Rae said. "Most of the time we're not filming. It's going and spending time being invited to see someone at the hospital, going to a birthday party. Aubrey (one of the subjects) and I made her dad a birthday cake one year and got to talk to him on the phone and just told him what it looked like."

"Daughters" is what some people are calling a "three tissue" movie that is sure to pull at heartstrings. The filmmakers hope that it can also be an agent of change, a powerful example of the importance of visits in which girls can hug their fathers. □

## Book Review: 'How to Leave the House' by Nathan Newman marks the debut of a bold new fiction voice



This book cover image released by Viking shows "How to Leave the House" by Nathan Newman.

Associated Press

By ROB MERRILL

Associated Press

Before you read a word of "How to Leave the House" by Nathan Newman, it may help to know that a TV adaptation is already in the works. This is a book that unfolds like it's destined for the small screen. "It was a cinematic sunset: pinks, oranges and periwinkle blues... Beneath it all was lonely Natwest, a single figure on the empty street..." That passage is about midway through the book, but you get the point. There are other parts that read like stage directions and the novel's point of view switches from inside the mind of our "hero," Natwest, to the perspectives of various town residents he encounters during the day. Let's back up. This is the story of a young Englishman named Natwest.

It is the day before he departs his hometown for the first time for university. He's intelligent, opinionated, and planning to study art history. He has ordered something embarrassing and the Royal Mail has not delivered it on time. The object in question is revealed on page 50, but it's too funny to spoil. The plot, such as it is, unfolds over

the course of 24 hours as Natwest leaves his house initially for a trip to the post office. When it turns out another town resident has taken possession of the package instead, Natwest's journey of discovery truly begins.

It's during his encounters with town residents that Natwest's perspective begins to change. The pretentious and self-centered young man gives way to someone whose interior monologue sounds like this near the end: "Natwest had always imagined himself to be the main character. ... He'd always thought he was leaving them (the town's residents) behind, but it dawned on him now that it was more likely they were leaving him behind. He was but a minor character in their lives."

Those lives are rich with pathos and humor. There's a dentist in love with a trans woman who loves to paint, but only human mouths. There's an imam who is at heart a cinephile. And a teenager having suicidal thoughts after the leak of nude pictures on the internet. Mix it all up with a secret surrounding Natwest's own origin story, and you begin to see how it might be a better TV show than it is a book. □



# U.S. women's basketball future looks bright, but the rest of the world is closing the talent gap

By **DOUG FEINBERG**  
AP Basketball Writer

**PARIS (AP)** — U.S. women's basketball players have been saying for years that winning in the Olympics isn't easy and France showed at the Paris Games that their comments are more than just rhetoric to keep fans interested.

The rest of the world is catching up to the U.S., though Olympic gold should continue to run through America.

The future for USA Basketball looks bright with A'ja Wilson and Breanna Stewart in their prime. Then there also is a extremely talented young group of players who say they want to be in the pipeline, led by Caitlin Clark, Angel Reese, Paige Bueckers and Juju Watkins. They could help anchor the national team, which is in a bit of a transition with the retirement of Diana Taurasi, who finished her career with a record six gold medals.

The Americans captured their record eighth Olympic gold medal Sunday by the narrowest of margins with a 67-66 victory over France. The U.S. won its six games in the tournament by an average of 15.7 points the lowest during its streak.



The United States team poses for a picture with their gold medals at Bercy Arena at the 2024 Summer Olympics, Sunday, Aug. 11, 2024, in Paris, France.

Associated Press

"The parity of women's basketball is just only continuing to grow," Stewart said. "So I think, you know, we know it's not easy."

France became the first team to come within a hair of beating the U.S. in the Olympics during its record 61-game winning streak that dates back to the 1992 Barcelona Games. Only two other teams had come within single digits of the Americans in those 32

years.

"Maybe they won't say it's just easy and we walk in and just win gold," said U.S. center Brittney Griner, who broke down in tears when she was presented her third gold medal. "Maybe they'll stop saying that, because, like I said, we see everybody's best shot. And we saw the shot that France gave us."

The U.S. will get homecourt during the 2028 Olympics,

which will be held in Los Angeles. The Americans had played the last two gold medal games against teams from the host nation. Griner said "we'll see" when asked if she'll be playing in the Los Angeles Games. Even if she doesn't decide to play she'll be 37 at that point the U.S. should return its top two stars Stewart and Wilson, who are only 29 and 28 years old respectively. The pair could po-

tentially play in a few more Olympics. With the exception of Taurasi, no one on this year's Olympic team would be older than 37 by the time the 2028 Olympics happen.

"I think being able to learn from a lot of the veteran players here, knowing it's kind of my time and a lot of our times that, this younger generation is able to kind of take this legacy and continue to push forward and go for nine," said Sabrina Ionescu, who earned her first Olympic gold medal. "This is a program that has always sort of made it look easy. But I always said it's not."

The major question potentially is who will be coaching the team in Los Angeles.

Cheryl Reeve could come back to coach the team, although it's extremely rare that a coach does a second stint. Only Geno Auriemma, who coached in 2012 and 2016, has done that. If the U.S. goes another direction, there's a few potential candidates. Assistant Kara Lawson, who won gold as a player in 2008 and also guided the inaugural 3x3 U.S. team in 2021 to first place could be on the list. □

# Red Sox OF Jarren Duran issues apology after directing a homophobic slur at a heckling fan

**BOSTON (AP)** — Boston Red Sox outfielder Jarren Duran apologized for directing a homophobic slur at a heckling fan during Sunday's 10-2 loss to the Houston Astros.

The exchange caught on a live mic during the broadcast of the game occurred when Duran who was 0 for 2 with two strikeouts at that point in the game was at the plate in the sixth inning. A fan at Fenway Park can be heard shouting "Tennis racket! Tennis racket! You need a tennis racket!"

Duran turned his head toward the fan and replied: "Shut up," followed by a

curse word and the slur. The at-bat ended with Duran being walked.

"During tonight's game, I used a truly horrific word when responding to a fan," Duran said in a statement released by the team. "I feel awful knowing how many people I offended and disappointed. I apologize to the entire Red Sox organization, but more importantly to the entire LGBTQ community. Our young fans are supposed to be able to look up to me as a role model, but tonight I fell far short of that responsibility."

He finished by saying he

would use the episode to educate himself and grow as a person.

The team in a statement said it has spoken with Duran about the incident.

"The Red Sox addressed this incident with Jarren immediately following today's game. We echo Jarren's apology to our fans, especially to the LGBTQ community," the team said. "We strive to be an organization that welcomes all fans to Fenway Park, and we will continue to educate our employees, players, coaches and staff on the importance of inclusivity."

Duran is one of Boston's top hitters this season with

a .291 average, 14 home runs and 58 RBIs. □



Boston Red Sox's Jarren Duran puts his bat down beside Houston Astros catcher Yainer Diaz after taking a walk during the sixth inning of a baseball game, Sunday, Aug. 11, 2024, in Boston.

Associated Press



# First full weekend of new NFL kickoff rule brings 2 long returns and plenty of confusion

By JOSH DUBOW  
AP Pro Football Writer

The first full weekend of exhibition games featuring the new dynamic kickoff included two long returns, a significant drop in touchbacks and mass confusion on an odd play that ended up as a rare safety.

The NFL's goals of increasing the rate of returns and bringing back the threat of big plays were mostly accomplished last weekend. The NFL reported 81% of kicks have been returned so far this preseason, even if teams have been a bit guarded in what wrinkles they were willing to show before the start of the regular season.

"You've seen everybody pretty much be vanilla in the preseason with the kickoff and how they're attacking on kickoff return," Raiders coach Antonio Pierce said. "I think the key part for us is seeing our guys run down and cover and who can make the space tackles."

It also was important for everyone to understand the new rules, as evidenced by what happened to the Kansas City Chiefs when they tried to down a ball for



Cincinnati Bengals' Chris Evans (25) avoids Tampa Bay Buccaneers tight end Ko Kieft (41) during a kickoff return in the second half of an NFL preseason football game Saturday, Aug. 10, 2024, in Cincinnati.

a touchback only to have it be ruled as a safety.

The play in question came late in the first half of Kansas City's game at Jacksonville on Saturday when Cam Little's kick for Jacksonville landed in the front of the end zone before bouncing back into the field of play. Mecole Hardman raced back and kneeled in the end zone before picking

up the ball around the 1 and bringing it back over the goal line. Under the old rules, a kickoff that landed in the end zone led to a automatic touchback.

The officials on the field initially ruled the play a touchback but because it was in the final 2 minutes of the first half, it was automatically reviewed. The call was then changed to

a safety because Hardman brought the ball from the field of play into his end zone. "I think it's a good coaching point for all teams, to really coach our returners in that situation," Jaguars coach Doug Pederson said. "It's definitely going to be on the coach's video that's going to come out this week. It's really a good teaching moment

for everybody, us included, for our returners. It's just a great way to learn that rule and to learn the game of football."

The last time there was a safety on a kick return without a lateral came in the 2012 season opener when Darius Reynaud fielded the opening kick for Tennessee against Pittsburgh while standing in the end zone. He brought the ball from the field of play into the end zone and kneeled down, hoping for a touchback. But the play was ruled a safety.

The misplay by the Chiefs was the only score on a kickoff but there were two long returns with Jacksonville's Parker Washington returning a kick 73 yards against Kansas City and Tennessee's Kearis Jackson having a 63-yarder against San Francisco.

"I'm not going to lie; it looked crazy at first," Washington said. "I thought I was supposed to be tackled a long time ago in mine, but it was exciting to be able to make a play like that. It was cool. It gave us confidence to be like, 'OK, these kick returns are real and it's going to be an exciting year.'"

Associated Press

## Aaron Rodgers says he regrets his 'immunized' comment in 2021 in an upcoming book about the QB

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Aaron Rodgers says in a soon-to-be published book that he should have handled discussing his COVID-19 immunization status differently.

The New York Jets quarterback was still with the Green Bay Packers in 2021 when he told reporters he was "immunized" against the virus and then tested positive for COVID-19 three months later and had to be sidelined for 10 days.

Rodgers unsuccessfully appealed to the league that his homeopathic treatment regimen should qualify him as vaccinated. The four-time NFL MVP was

widely criticized for not being truthful about his status. "If there's one thing I wish could have gone differ-

ent, it's that, because that's the only thing (critics) could hit me with," ESPN reported Rodgers



New York Jets quarterback Aaron Rodgers is seen before the start of an NFL preseason football game between the Washington Commanders and New York Jets Saturday, Aug. 10, 2024, in East Rutherford, N.J.

Associated Press

told author Ian O'Connor for the biography, "Out Of The Darkness: The Mystery of Aaron Rodgers," which goes on sale next week.

ESPN said Rodgers says in the book his main reason for claiming he was "immunized" was the statement represented "the crux of my appeal."

Rodgers said at the time he was allergic to an ingredient in the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines polyethylene glycol and was concerned about potential adverse reactions to the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. "But if I could do it again, I would have said, (forget) the appeal. I'm just going to tell them I'm

allergic to PEG," Rodgers says in the book. "I'm not getting Johnson & Johnson. I'm not going to be vaxxed."

The book, based on interviews with 250 people, including Rodgers, also delves into other aspects of the quarterback's life, including his recovery from a torn Achilles tendon after four snaps in his debut with the Jets last year, his long estrangement from his family, his introduction to using ayahuasca and details of his football playing career through college at Cal, his draft-day plunge in the first round in 2005 and his 18 seasons with the Packers.